NSC meeting 4 march 53

notes on Stalen ellness.

DCI made no formal fresentation. Some of the material was, however, Covered by descussions by the members.

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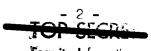
At 5:15 this morning, Moscow time (12:15 our time), Radio Moscow gave out to Europe announcement regarding Stalin's critical condition. Local dissemination started 15 minutes later.

Eight doctors attending propose issue frequent bulletins. All under new Minister of Health and present Chief of Kremlin Medical Dep't, who is MGB man. Stalin last seen by foreigner on 17 February when gave audience Indian Ambassador. Possibility his illness concealed for some time. All announcements so far issued in name of Central Committee Communist Party (party organization) and by Council of Ministers (governing organization, equals cabinet). Malenkov is No. 2 man in party organization; Molotov is No. 2 man in Cabinet set-up.

Consequences of Stalin's elimination:

1. Struggle for power among Molotov, Malenkov factions, with possibility Beria controlling Secret Police might capitalize on such conflict.

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- Security Information
- Possible effect on Mao, who took No. 2 position to Stalin, but will he do so to another?
- [also-Paris London]

 3. Tito's view: No danger of war as long as Stalin lives; watch out for future.

 Tito's view generally shared in Europe.
- 4. London view (radio): Relax for a while, but then look out!
- 5. Bonn View: A du-umvirate; Malenkov internal, Molotov external. No rejoicing.

Did S. Leave a testament liles Leun - [L. 12 Stalin]

Sin 22 Seity Jen-Leun died 24 Struggle In power - Trotsky out 28 Bullian.

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